

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 EA-11 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 MBFR-03

GAC-01 SAJ-01 EB-11 TRSE-00 RSR-01 /108 W

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R 251537 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6841

USIA WASHDC

UNCLASSIFIED COPENHAGEN 0851

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR DA NATO

SUBJ: DANISH OFFICIAL AND PRESS REACTION TO KISSINGER SPEECH

REF: STATE 75989

SUMMARY: KNEE- JERK REACTIONS OF VARIOUS POLITICAL SPOKESMEN AND PRESS PUNDITS IN DENMARK AMPLY CONFIRM KISSINGER' S WORDS ABOUT MAJOR CHALLENGE WE FACE IN EDUCATING PEOPLES OF WESTERN ALLIANCE TO REALITIES OF SECURITY IN THE 1970' S. INITIAL COMMENTS BY POLITICIANS WERE APPARENTLY BASED LARGELY ON HASTY READING OF YESTERDAY' S NEWSPAPER HEADLINES AND MAY BE OPEN TO REINTERPRETATION WHEN THEY HAVE READ SPEECH, WHICH GIVEN WIDE DISTRIBUTION BY USIS. SEVERAL MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT HAVE INDICATED THEY EXPECT KISSINGER SPEECH TO PROVIDE PRINCIPAL FOCUS FOR FOLKETING' S PERIODIC DEBATE ON FOREIGN POLICY, SET FOR APRIL 27. END SUMMARY.

1. DANISH FONMIN K. B. ANDERSEN NOTED CAREFULLY QUOTE IT WOULD BE WRONG TO MAKE COMMENTARY OR EVALUATION OF OUR REACTION, SIMPLY BECAUSE I ONLY KNOW ABOUT KISSINGER' S STATEMENTS FROM RADIO TV AND PRESS, BUT HEART OF MATTER, NAMELY RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN U. S. AND EUROPE, WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BE DISCUSSED, BY MYSELF AND OTHERS, DURING FOREIGN POLITICAL DEBATE IN DANISH PARLIAMENT FRIDAY UNQUOTE. GERT PETERSEN, SPOKESMAN FOR LEFTIST SOCIALIST PEOPLE' S PARTY, WHICH PROVIDES KEY SUPPORT FOR SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC MINORITY
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GOVERNMENT, COMMENTS QUOTE DENMARK CAN UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES CONTRIBUTE TO PROPOSED INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM TOGETHER WITH JAPAN. ON THE CONTRARY, DENMARK OUGHT TO SEEK WAY OUT OF NATO AND JOIN SWEDEN IN INTERNATIONAL POLITICS... IT CANNOT, AND SHOULD NOT, BE

DANISH EFFORT TO STRENGTHEN NATO... IF NIXON'S PROPOSAL MEANS NEW TRIANGLE WHICH TIES DENMARK FOR MANY YEARS, THIS WOULD CONSTITUTE CATASTROPHIC RETROGRADE STEP FOR OUR COUNTRY UNQUOTE. POUL HARTLING, CHAIRMAN OF MODERATE LIBERAL PARTY, SAID QUOTE COMMUNITY OF INTERESTS BETWEEN EUROPEAN NATO MEMBERS AND U. S.- CANADA IS SO CLOSE THAT BROAD COOPERATION FROM BOTH SIDES DESIRABLE. ONE MUST ASSUME, HOWEVER, THAT COUNTRIES WILL NOT SUPPORT GEOGRAPHIC EXPANSION OF MILITARY OBLIGATIONS UNQUOTE.

NIELS HELVEG PETERSEN, SPOKESMAN OF RADICAL LIBERAL PARTY, WARNED THAT QUOTE U. S. INTEREST IN REORGANIZATION OF RELATIONSHIP TO EUROPE HAS TO DO WITH COMMON MARKET'S EXPANSION AND ECONOMIC STRENGTHENING OF EUROPE. IT IS HARD TO SEE THAT SOMETHING COULD BE GAINED, POLITICALLY OR ECONOMICALLY, BY CREATING NEW ATLANTIC INSTITUTIONS. RADICAL LIBERAL'S POSITION IS THAT IF DENMARK IS TO UNDERTAKE OBLIGATIONS BEYOND PRESENT POSSIBILITY TO WITHDRAW FROM NATO WITH ONE YEAR'S NOTICE, VOTERS MUST FIRST HAVE THEIR SAY THROUGHOUT ELECTION OR REFERENDUM UNQUOTE.

KNUD OSTERGAARD, CONSERVATIVE MP AND FORMER DEFENSE MINISTER, QUOTE OFFHAND KISSINGER'S PROPOSAL APPEARS SENSIBLE. IT IS IN ACCORDANCE WITH PART OF WHAT WE HAVE BEEN DISCUSSING IN EUROPEAN COUNCIL. ONE MUST LOOK AT AMERICAN INITIATIVE AS ENTITY AND REALIZE THAT U. S. IS NOT ONLY COUNTRY WHICH HAS ECONOMIC PROBLEMS UNQUOTE.

2. PRESS REACTION ALSO FOLLOWED USUAL PATTERN. CONSERVATIVE BERLINGSKE TIDENDE WROTE QUOTE SPEECH IS CHALLENGE AND OFFER FOR RENEWAL OF ATLANTIC PARTNERSHIP, FOR OPEN- MINDED SOLUTION OF PROBLEMS WHICH WESTERN WORLD MUST FACE DURING COMING DECADES... IT IS OFFER FROM AMERICANS WHICH COMMITS THEM IN FUTURE, NOT ONLY TO CONTINUED ROLE IN MAINTAINING EUROPEAN SECURITY, BUT ALSO TO POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC COOPERATION WHICH WILL PUT TIES OF MUTUAL CONSIDERATION FULLY AS MUCH ON THEM AS ON EUROPEANS.

IT IS OFFER WHICH EUROPE CANNOT IGNORE. IT MUST BE ACCEPTED AND BE ACTED UPON WITH IMAGINATION AND, ABOVE ALL, WITH POLITICAL UNCLASSIFIED

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DETERMINATION. TASK IS NOT NECESSARILY TO CREATE NEW ATLANTIC INSTITUTIONS, BUT TO ARRIVE AT MORE TANGIBLE REALIZATION OF ATLANTIC COMMUNITY OF INTERESTS IN ITS COMPLICATED PRESENT RAMIFICATIONS UNQUOTE. INDEPENDENT POLITIKEN COMPLAINS QUOTE NEW ALLIANCE AND NEW PACT- LIKE INSTITUTIONS ARE PROBABLY WORST AMERICANS COULD OFFER. THAT TESTIFIES EITHER TO CONSPICUOUS LACK OF FEELING FOR WHAT GOES ON IN EUROPE, OR TO KNOWLEDGE WHICH MAKES CERTAIN PEOPLE IN WASHINGTON AFRAID. WHATEVER IT IS, WE WANT NOTHING TO DO WITH IT. ALLIES SHOULD, HOWEVER, CONSULT WITH U. S. ABOUT UPDATING OF ATLANTIC COOPERATION, WHICH IS HIGHLY NEEDED... WE AGREE WITH AMERICANS THAT ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL QUESTIONS CANNOT BE SEPARATED FROM MILITARY. TO CLAIM OPPOSITE IS TO FOOL ONESELF AND OTHERS... UNQUOTE. AKTUEL, HOUSE ORTAN OF SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC GOVT, EDITORIALIZES QUOTE

SHORT- RANGE AIM IS CLEAR: PRESIDENT NIXON SEEKS SOLUTION,
WHICH IS SATISFACTORY TO U. S.; OF HIS ECONOMIC AND TRADE POLITICAL
PROBLEMS BY INTEGRATING THEM IN MILITARY COOPERATION WITH WESTERN
EUROPE WHERE U. S. IS STRONGEST. SOLUTION IS CERTAINLY NECESSARY
AND WILL PROBABLY ALSO COST
WESTERN EUROPE MONEY, BUT TO FIND IT (SOLUTION) IN EXPANSION OF
NATO' S PREAMBLE WILL HARDLY GAIN POPULAR SUPPORT IN, FOR EXAMPLE,
DENMARK. UNQUOTE. LEFTIST INFORMATION COMMENTS QUOTE AS
OVERTURE TO NEGOTIATIONS WITH EUROPEAN LEADERS, AND PROBABLY ALSO
TO GIVE WORLD AND, PARTICULARLY AMERICANS, SOMETHING ELSE TO THINK
OF THAN WATERGATE, NIXON HAS, THROUGH KISSINGER, RATHER CASUALLY
PRESENTED A BLUEPRINT FOR NEW ATLANTIC PACT... IN EUROPEAN CAPITALS
ONE WILL NATURALLY NOTE KISSINGER' S REMARKS THAT U. S. TROOPS WILL
REMAIN IN EUROPE. AS WE ALL KNOW THERE ARE PEOPLE, BOTH HERE AND
ELSEWHERE, WHO THINK THAT THEY SHOULD NOT (REMAIN). BY LINKING
PROBLEM TOGETHER WITH TRADE, MONEY AND VARIOUS STILL- NOT- REVEALED
FORMS OF IDEALISM, NIXON HAS MADE IT MORE DIFFICULT FOR PEOPLE
FROM THIS SCHOOL OF THOUGHT TO HAVE THEIR SAY. NIXON HAS ALSO,
AND THIS WILL GIVE SEVERAL EUROPEANS REASON FOR CONTEMPLATION,
SENT A TORPEDO AGAINST SHIP SAILING UNDER COMMON MARKET FLAG..
UNQUOTE. CONSERVATIVE KRISTELIGT DAGBLAD SAYS QUOTE KISSINGER' S
SPEECH MUST BE CONSIDERED CHALLENGE TO WESTERN EUROPE.. QUESTION
FOR U. S. IS WHETHER NEW EUROPE WILL BECOME PARTNER OR RIVAL,
PARTICULARLY IN ECONOMIC FIELD UNQUOTE. CONSERVATIVE JYLLANDS-
POSTEN, LARGEST PROVINCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 07 MAY 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 APR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973COPENH00851
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: COPENHAGEN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730460/abqceesp.tel
Line Count: 133
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: STATE 75989
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: kellerpr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags: ANOMALY
Review Date: 20 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20-Aug-2001 by reddocgw>; APPROVED <07-Jan-2002 by kellerpr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> jms 980203
Subject: DANISH OFFICIAL AND PRESS REACTION TO KISSINGER SPEECH
TAGS: PFOR, DA, n/a
To: STATE
USIA
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005